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PROCEEDINGS  
OF  
THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

[ISSUED FEBRUARY 11TH, 1867.]

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SESSION 1866-7.

*First Meeting, 12th November, 1866.*

SIR RODERICK I. MURCHISON, BART., K.C.B., PRESIDENT, in  
the Chair.

PRESENTATION.—*R. B. Byass, Esq.*

ELECTIONS.—*Anthony Maw Bower, Esq.; William Charles Luard, Esq.; Major J. J. Macdonell (71st Regt.); Herbert Henry Morris, Esq., B.A.*

ACCESSIONS TO THE LIBRARY SINCE THE LAST MEETING, JULY 9TH, 1866.—*Donations:* ‘Diary of a Journey Across Arabia, from El Khatif in the Persian Gulf to Gambo in the Red Sea,’ by P. Byan, Esq. ‘Die Völker des österlichen Asiens,’ by Dr. A. Bastian. ‘Mémoire sur l’Ethnographie de la Perse,’ by M. N. de Khanikof. ‘Abstract of the Adventures of Ladislaus Magyar in South Africa,’ by Dr. Rónay. ‘Report on the Headwaters of the River Waitaki,’ by Dr. J. Haast. ‘A Manual of Surveying for India,’ by Capt. Smythe and Col. Thuillier. ‘Report on the Chinchona Cultivation in India,’ by C. R. Markham, Esq., F.R.A.S., &c. ‘On the Budgets and Accounts of England and France,’ by Major-Gen. G. Balfour, C.B., R.A., &c. ‘Reisen durch Süd-Amerika,’ vol. i., by J. J. von Tschudi. ‘Les Portes-canaux. Sul moto ondosso del Mare,’ by A. Cialdi. ‘Charbon de Terre en Russie,’ by von Helmersen. ‘Reliquiæ Aquitanix,’ by E. L. and S. Christy. All presented by the Authors. ‘Reports on the Trade at the Ports in China, open by Treaty to Foreign Trade, for 1865 and 1866,’ presented by J. H. Fitzroy, Esq. ‘Relation de plusieurs Voyages à la Côte de l’Afrique;’ presented by S. M. Drach, Esq. ‘Calanderio y guia de

forasteros de la Republica Peruana,' 3 vols.; presented by W. Bol-laert, Esq.

*Purchased.*—'Grönland geographisk og statistik beskrevet,' by M. H. Rink. 'De danske Handelsgestricter in Nord-Grönland,' 2 vols., by M. H. Rink. 'Annales de la Propagation de la Foi,' 23 vols. 'A Voyage Round the world in H.M.S. *Pandora*,' by Capt. Edwards. 'China Opened,' 2 vols., by Rev. C. Gutzlaff. 'Lettera rarissima di C. Colombo,' by A. B. Morelli. 'Voyages en diverses parties de l'Europe, de l'Afrique, et de l'Amerique,' 2 vols. 'Primera parte de los comentarios reales, que tratan de el origen de los Incas,' &c., 4 vols., by Garcilasso de la Vega. 'Historia Antipodum; oder Neue Welt,' von Johann L. Gottfried. 'A Description of the Persian Monarchy, now being the Oriental Indies,' by Thos. Herbert. Swinburn's 'Travels in the Two Sicilies.' 'Correspondence respecting the British Captives in Abyssinia' (Blue Book). Baker's 'Albert Nyanza' (2nd copy). 'De Aanmerkenswaardigste en Alomberoemde Zee- en Landreizen der Portugeezen, &c., in Oost- en Westindien,' 8 vols. 'Travels in Russia, the Crimea, the Caucasus, and Georgia,' 2 vols., by Robert Lyell, M.D., &c. 'Recueil de divers Voyages fait en Afrique et en Amerique.' 'Travels and Voyages through Europe, Asia, and Africa,' by Wm. Lithgow. 'Recherches sur les Voyages et Decouvertes des Navigateurs Normands en Afrique,' &c., par L. Estaucelin. 'Dissertazione intorno ad alcuni viaggiatori eruditi Veneziani,' &c., da Don J. Morelli. All added to the Library by purchase. Continuations of Journals, Transactions, &c.

ACCESSIONS TO THE MAP-ROOM SINCE THE LAST ANNIVERSARY, MAY 28TH, 1866.—A Map of the Kirghiz Steppe and Regions of the Orenburg, and Siberian Kirghizes, from a Russian Map. A Map of the Pearl-banks of Tuticorin and Trichendoor, by C. R. Markham, Esq. A Map of Bohemia, showing the Scene of the late Battles; copied by the photo-zincographic process from the Austrian Map. A Map of British Burmah, showing routes from Maulmain to the Shan States, by W. Montgomerie, Esq. A Map of the Survey of the Province of Pegu, by Lieut. E. C. Williams. A Map of the Province of Martaban from Martaban to Tounggoo, by A. Hobday. An Outline Map, showing the Boundary of the British and Siamese Territories of the Malay Peninsula. A Map of Moravia; on 4 sheets; copied by the photo-zincographic process from the Austrian Government Map, at the Ordnance Survey Office. Two Maps of the Vicinities of Vienna, Presburg, and Feldsburg; copied from the Austrian Government Map, at the Ordnance Survey Office. A Geo-

logical Map of the Department of the Seine ; on 4 sheets ; by M. Delesse. A Map of the Chain of Monte Rosa ; photographed from the Carte Federale of Switzerland, by A. A. Reilly. A Map of the Lower Course of the Jordan and of the Dead Sea, by Lieut. Vignes. A Map of the Wady Arabah and of the Bed of the Wady el Jeib, by Lieut. Vignes. A Geological Map of Saxony and Magdeburg ; on 4 sheets ; by J. Ewald. 4 Sheets of a Geological Map of Rhenish Prussia. A Map of the Gold Region of the Frazer River, &c., by J. Wyld. A Map of the Province of Valdivia, by Bernardo E. Philippi. A Map of part of the Province of Tarapaca, from Port Conajagua to Ojaica. A Plan of the City and Port of Valparaiso. A Plan of the City of Lima. General Atlas of the World ; on 30 sheets ; by Dr. Henry Lange. Chromo-lithographic Atlas of Saxony ; on 12 sheets ; by Dr. Henry Lange. A School-Atlas of Saxony ; on 3 sheets ; by Dr. Henry Lange. The Bust of the President, Sir R. I. Murchison, Bart., K.C.B., by Amelia R. Hill. A Map of the Mekran Coast from Kurrachee to Guadur, showing the Route of Lieut. Ross. A Map of the Route of Lieut.-Col. Goldsmid and Major Smith from Ispahan to Choubar and Bunder Abbas. A Map of the Neilgherri and Koondah Hills, &c. A new Map of Railways and other Improvements of London. Stanford's Library Map of Africa, by A. K. Johnston. A Plan of the Kaimenies or Burnt Islands in the Crater of Santorin Island, showing the effects of the late Volcanic eruptions, by Capt. Lindesay Brine, R.N. A Chart showing the Temperature of the Currents off the Cape of Good Hope, by H. Toynbee, Esq. A Photograph of H.M.S. *Bombay*, destroyed by fire off Monte Video. A Chart of the Nicobar Islands, by Commodore B. v. Wüllerstorff-Urbair. A Map of the Punjab ; on 8 sheets ; by Lieut.-Col. D. R. Robinson, R.E. Chinese Map of the Inner City of Pekin ; presented by H. Kopsch and E. Taintor, Esq. Black's New Map of England and Wales, by J. Bartholomew ; on 16 sheets. Ordnance Survey, 883 sheets. Admiralty Charts, 37 sheets.

The PRESIDENT opened the Session with the following Address :—

GENTLEMEN,—Although I feel assured that the Session now opened will be productive of highly interesting results, particularly in respect to explorations in Asia and South America, I cannot lead you to hope for any such important discovery in Africa as that with which Sir Samuel Baker delighted us in the past year ; nor can we be excited as we were upon Du Chaillu's return after his last effort to penetrate into Equatorial Africa. Until the grand problem of what is the true watershed of the vast unexplored region far to the south

of the huge water-basins which feed the Nile, the Victoria Nyanza of Speke and Grant, and the Albert Nyanza of Baker, which we earnestly and hopefully look for at the hands of Livingstone, we cannot expect to be gratified as we were when the narratives of those distinguished explorers were brought before us. In the mean time, however, I rejoice to be able to inform you that, by the last accounts received, the indefatigable and undaunted Livingstone was steadily advancing beyond the Rovuma River towards the interior, that he was in good health and spirits, and fully hopeful of success in defining the northern boundary of his own Lake Nyassa, and ascertaining whether it receives a water-supply from the north. Let us trust that, if he reaches the Lake Tanganyika of Burton and Speke, he may be enabled to determine whether it really lies in the great depression assigned to it by those travellers; and, if not, whether it has any issue to the North, so as to be, as it were, the ultimate southern feeder of the Nile (a theory of some geographers), or is there closed in by lofty mountains.

Turning to the consideration of a topic which deeply interests us, the fate of the few survivors of the wreck of the *St. Abbs*, East India-man, on the Somauli coast, north of Zanzibar, I would not make any statement which might too much encourage the hopes of those who have mourned the loss of relatives and friends; but I am happy to inform you that Lord Stanley, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, has transmitted to me a copy of a despatch from Captain Pasley, R.N., commanding the *Highflyer*, by which it appears that a report still prevails of a white man, or of white men, having been seen at some days' march distant from the coast; and that an emissary has been sent inland with a promise of a reward of 100*l.* for every white person who may be rescued.

I cannot as yet enumerate the titles of many of the memoirs and narratives which will be brought before you in the course of the Session; but among those which have already been received, I strongly commend to your attention the paper which is to be read this evening, and which gives an account of the journey performed by Mr. W. H. Johnson, from Leh, in Little Tibet, to Khotan in Chinese Tartary, thus carrying his explorations far beyond the North-Western boundary of Western India. This important Paper has already elicited the unqualified approbation of Sir Henry Rawlinson, Lord Strangford, and Sir Andrew Scott Waugh. In alluding to this communication, I beg to direct your attention to the large new wall-map of Asia, which has been made during the recess, and a portion of which is now before you. This large map will doubtless render the reading of every paper on any part of Asia much more

intelligible to those who attend our meetings. We are all much indebted to Admiral Sir G. Back, Admiral Collinson, and General Balfour, under whose direction this grand diagram has been prepared.

In reference to South America, you will be glad to learn, that Mr. W. Chandless, the explorer of the Purûs River, to whom the Victoria Gold Medal was given at our last anniversary, has returned safely to England, after completing his self-imposed task by a second journey up the river, and a survey of its most important southern affluent, the Aquiry. The memoir which this distinguished traveller has prepared on the subject of this last journey will probably be read by himself before you in the course of the session.

Another important paper, on the Province of Caravaya, in Southern Peru, has been presented to the Society by our Honorary Corresponding Member, Don Antonio Raimondy, who has spent three years in exploring the region. The paper contains much new information about the river-systems of the district through which flows the Madre de Dios; and we may hope now to have a final solution of the difficulty which geographers have felt in connecting these streams with the rivers which flow into the Amazons.

Notwithstanding the want of success which our Council met with last year in their earnest endeavour to induce the Board of Admiralty to send out a scientific expedition to the North Pole, you will be glad to hear that we are now emboldened to make another effort, inasmuch as that powerful national body, the British Association for the Advancement of Science, has appointed a committee, of which I am the chairman, to urge upon Her Majesty's present Government the desirableness of carrying out a measure fraught with such interest to all geographers and naturalists. In such capacity, then, as well as in that of your President, it will be my duty to persevere in the endeavour to realise a North Pole survey, for the accomplishment of which the men of science of other countries look to England and her experienced and undaunted Arctic seamen, who are most eager thus to complete their examination of those regions in which they have already won so much distinction.

Touching Australia, the only event of importance which has transpired since we last met is, I regret to say, of a very sorrowful nature. The Leichhardt Search Expedition, to promote which the Society contributed 200*l.*, had crossed the continent from Victoria to the head of the Gulf of Carpentaria, when its experienced and enterprising leader, Mr. Duncan McIntyre, was struck down by an endemic fever, and died after a few days' illness. This sad

event will not, however, put an end to the search, as a successor has been appointed in the person of Mr. Campbell.

In concluding these brief observations, I beg to congratulate you on the completion and erection of an obelisk to the memory of that great and successful discoverer, the lamented Speke. Cut off, alas! as he was before he received those honours to which, with his companion Grant, he was so justly entitled, it is gratifying to know that his numerous friends and admirers have been enabled, by the Queen's special permission, to place this memorial in one of the avenues near the broad walk of Kensington Gardens. I invite you to inspect this obelisk, which, like that also erected by our private subscriptions to commemorate the noble daring of the French Lieutenant Bellot, who was lost in the search after Franklin, does great credit to Macdonald and Field, the well-known granite-workers of Aberdeen.

This mention of the name of the renowned Arctic navigator, to whom I was so deeply attached, and to whom I wished "God speed" when he left our shores for the last time, in 1845, prompts me to announce to you that the uncovering of the fine statue, by Mr. Noble, which was unanimously decreed to his memory by a vote of Parliament, will take place on Thursday next, at half-past two o'clock.

When I inform you that Sir John Pakington, as First Lord of the Admiralty, has most willingly assented to the request to attend, made to him by myself, in the name of all geographers, and particularly in that of the many gallant Arctic naval officers and explorers who are Fellows of this Society, I feel certain that you will desire to congregate around the monument on this touching occasion, and thus cheer up Lady Franklin by a fresh proof of your high estimation of the great deeds of her illustrious husband.

The Paper of the evening was the following:—

1. *On the Recent Journey of Mr. W. H. Johnson from Leh, in Ladakh, to Ilchi in Chinese Turkistan.* By Major-General Sir H. C. RAWLINSON, K.C.B., M.P., &c.

SIR HENRY C. RAWLINSON said the journey of Mr. Johnson was a most remarkable one, not only for the boldness with which it was undertaken into an almost unknown country, many hundred miles distant from the British frontier, but for the scientific precision with which the places traversed were made known to us, and without which exploration in unknown countries lost half its value. Mr. Johnson was born and bred in India, and, having received his